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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Chen et al. Art Unit :
 Serial No. : Examiner :
 Filed : February 20, 2002
 Title : NOVEL MODIFIED MSP-1 NUCLEIC ACID SEQUENCES AND METHODS
 FOR INCREASING mRNA LEVELS AND PROTEIN EXPRESSION IN CELL
 SYSTEMS

Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

In the specification:

Insert the following paragraph at page 1, line 6:

-- This application is a continuation of U.S. Serial Number 09/175,684, filed October 20, 1998, which claims priority to U.S. Serial Number 60/085,649, filed May 15, 1998, and U.S. Serial Number 60/062,592, filed October 20, 1997, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference. --

In the claims:

Cancel claims 1-8.

Add new claims 9-84 as follows:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY EXPRESS MAIL

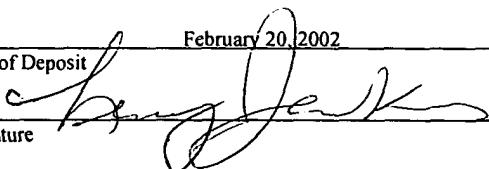
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Leroy Jenkins
 Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate